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UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

16 JAN 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR CHAIRMAN, UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Science and Technology Advisory Panel

1. This memorandum includes a recommendation in paragraph 7 for the establishment of an advisory panel on certain scientific and technical matters. The panel's principal concern would be with areas of USIB interest in the physical and life sciences, technologies, and unconventional future weapon systems, areas correlating to major STIC responsibilities. The panel would not normally concern itself directly with areas of WSSIC, JAEIC or EIC responsibility, unless requested to do so by these committees.

2. The importance of assessing foreign progress in early research and development and advanced technologies which could affect the national security or economic interests of the United States is growing. The need for providing suitable early warning is great and is the highest concern of the STIC. I believe that a small multidisciplinary panel of persons from academic and industrial areas could assist greatly in providing guidance to, and asking the right questions of, the Intelligence Community for the Chairman, USIB.

3. I would envision that such a panel would have among its principal functions the following:

a. to recommend initiatives and introduce new thinking on ways to provide early warning of significant S&T developments,

b. to recommend new directions and emphases in S&T collection, processing, and production; as well as to recommend changes in allocations of resources, both manpower and money,

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c. to serve as a quality control mechanism; an outside source for objective evaluation of national substantive S&T analysis,

d. to provide new linkages and interactions between the intelligence and non-intelligence communities,

e. to assist in multidisciplinary studies, particularly those broad or new subjects that do not fit neatly into existing structures, and

f. to review evidence on existing S&T intelligence "enigmas" and to suggest avenues for solving these unknowns.

4. Members for such a panel would have to be carefully selected. I would hope that each member, and certainly the panel as a whole, would have the following characteristics:

a. understanding of the intelligence community and the government, but not at present holding a position in the government,

b. a broad and international outlook on science, technology and intelligence,

c. well established professional credentials,

d. ability to communicate inside and outside the panel, and

e. not presently overloaded with other assignments; a willingness and ability to participate with other members and to contribute the necessary time.

5. It is proposed that the panel be called the Science and Technology Advisory Panel and that it be small, 7-10 members, with broad areas of interests represented. I would expect it to meet as a group for two days, two or three times a year. It would be

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flexible, however, and could respond to particular problems which might call for a rapid response on an ad hoc basis from an individual member, a small subset of members, or a member and a few non-member associates. The members would normally serve 3-year terms, with the chairman changing every two years. Clearance level would be at least TS/SI/TK/Gamma/BYE, with other compartmented clearances as needed for specific problem areas. The STIC would act as the executive secretariat. The total annual cost for the panel would be a maximum of [] for travel and consultant fees, depending on the number of members and meetings. 25X1

6. If this proposal is approved, I would recommend that you appoint [] 25X1

[] as the first chairman. Specific recommendations for panel members will be made to you at a later date. The type of persons I have in mind as members is exemplified in the following list of names compiled with advice from a number of knowledgeable intelligence community individuals: 25X1

[Redacted list of names]

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7. I urge your early approval of the formation of this panel.



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Chairman

CONCURRENCE:

/s/ Samuel V. Wilson

16 JAN 1976

Deputy to the DCI for the Intelligence
Community

Date

APPROVED:

SIGNED

19 JAN 1976

Chairman, United States Intelligence
Board

Date